



DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH & HUMAN SERVICES

Voice - (214) 767-4056, TDD - (214) 767-8940
(FAX) - (214) 767-0432 <http://www.hhs.gov/ocr/>

OFFICE OF THE SECRETARY

Office for Civil Rights, Region VI
1301 Young Street, Suite 1169
Dallas, TX 75202

January 31, 2013

U.S. Environmental Protection Agency
Office of Civil Rights
1200 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW, Room 2540
Washington, DC 20460

RE: OCR Transaction Number: 06-13-153450

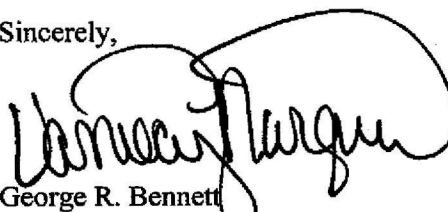
Dear Sir or Madam:

Enclosed for your review is correspondence received by the U.S. Department of Health and Human Services, Office for Civil Rights (OCR).

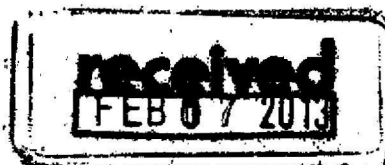
We have determined that the issues raised in the correspondence are outside of OCR's jurisdiction. The issues may fall within your agency jurisdiction; therefore we are referring this correspondence to your office for whatever action you deem appropriate. The complainant(s) has/have been informed of this referral.

Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

Sincerely,


George R. Bennett
Acting Regional Manager

Enclosure



Bennett, George (HHS/OCR)

From: Alston, Valerie Morgan (HHS/OCR)
Sent: Thursday, December 27, 2012 3:32 PM
To: Rouse, Ralph (HHS/OCR); Bennett, George (HHS/OCR)
Cc: Frohboese, Robinsue (HHS/OCR); Hanrahan, Eileen (HHS/OCR); deKervor, Dylan (HHS/OCR)
Subject: Fw: Civil rights violations in Waller County Texas need to be investigated
Importance: High

Hello George,

This looks like a potential environmental justice case. It looks like one that should go to the EPA, but please consult with Eileen and Dylan to confirm this. If I am correct, please refer the case as soon as possible. Otherwise, make whatever referral is deemed appropriate by Eileen and Dylan. Please be sure to notify the complainant of the referral. Thank you.

Val

----- Original Message -----

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Wednesday, December 26, 2012 08:12 PM
To: Alston, Valerie Morgan (HHS/OCR)
Subject: Civil rights violations in Waller County Texas need to be investigated

[REDACTED]

December 26, 2012

Deputy Director Valerie Morgan-Alston
200 Independence Avenue, SW
Room 522-E
Washington, DC 20201

Dear Deputy Director Morgan-Alston:

Last week the Waller County, Texas Commissioners voted "AGAINST" the civil rights of the residents of Hempstead, Texas and "FOR" a Landfill and environmental racism - and we need help!

This landfill will economically and environmentally destroy an area that's already struggling for survival. It was gut-wrenching to watch citizen after citizen stand up and plead with the Commission to support the ordinance and their constituents, only to witness our elected officials support the landfill company instead.

The Highway 6 Landfill is unwanted by the predominantly poor black and hispanic residents of Hempstead - and to add insult to injury, this landfill will be on the doorstep of Texas's oldest black university, Prairie View A&M.

Landfills leak - and Pintail has a history of building faulty landfills! -- and this acreage sits directly above the Chicot Aquifer, the only source of water for Hempstead. This area is also the headwater for Clear Creek, which runs to the Brazos River; water that originates here is used as drinking water in Houston! Additionally, of the four migratory flyways from Canada to the southern US coastline, the Central Flyway is a major flyway as